

**CHARGE**

UCR CODE: 090A

FLORIDA STATUTE:

COUNTS: 1

DESCRIPTION:

DRUG ACT: N N/A

DRUG TYPE: N N/A

DRUG UNIT: 0 NOT APPLICABLE

DRUG QTY:

VI/OFFENDER REL: 17 FRIEND

MULTI CLEARANCE INDICATOR:

On 01/17/2007, at approximately 1035 hours, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office dispatch received a 911 call from a male, who identified himself as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] identified as Sherri Carman had been missing since 01/16/2007, and he had found blood inside their residence. Deputies were dispatched to 3324 Virginia Drive, Titusville to meet with [REDACTED].

At approximately 1043 hours, Corporal Tonya Meadows arrived at the residence and met with Mr. Stauffer. Mr. Stauffer ran to Corporal Meadows patrol vehicle stating, "Something is not right". Mr. Stauffer and Corporal Meadows entered the residence through a carport door, located at the northeast side of the residence. Corporal Meadows observed a cell phone lying on the ground covered with a reddish substance, which was suspected blood. Corporal Meadows then observed a pile of clothes, sheets, and pillows in the southwest corner of the room. There was a reddish substance on these items, which was suspected blood. Corporal Meadows also observed behind the pile of clothing next to the wall a hammer and another type of tool, later identified as a pipe. Both the hammer and pipe had reddish substance on them, which was suspected blood. Based on Corporal Meadows' observations, she exited the residence and waited for an additional deputy to arrive in order to conduct a more thorough search.

While waiting for Deputy Dowdy, Corporal Meadows conducted a brief interview with Mr. Stauffer. Mr. Stauffer stated that he last saw Mrs. Carman on 01/16/2007, at approximately 0800 hours. Mr. Stauffer left the residence at approximately 0800 hours, and drove to the Orlando area for work. Mr. Stauffer spoke with Mrs. Carman on the telephone at approximately 1200 hours, and they spoke for a short period of time. At approximately 1445 hours, Mr. Stauffer spoke with Mrs. Carman's children, who advised they arrived at the residence and their mother, Mrs. Carman, was not there. Mr. Stauffer contacted the neighbor, identified as Nicholas King, and asked him to watch the kids until he could find a relative to pick them up.

Mr. Stauffer advised that a friend of Mrs. Carman, identified as Michael Townson, had recently been staying at the residence and he was missing as well. Mrs. Carman's Chrysler 300M was also missing from the residence.

At approximately 1052 hours, Deputy Bruce Dowdy arrived on scene and assisted with the investigation. Corporal Meadows and Deputy Dowdy entered the residence and conducted a more thorough search. Corporal Meadows observed two first aid kits on the bed of the master bedroom, located on the east side of the bedroom. She also observed a purse with medication and identification belonging to Mrs. Carman. Corporal Meadows and Deputy Dowdy continued with the search and observed that a door leading to the laundry room was locked. Mr. Stauffer was asked to enter the residence and to locate a key to unlock

the door. Mr. Stauffer was unable to unlock the door and agreed to kick in the door to gain entry. Mr. Stauffer kicked the door open and deputies looked in the laundry room but were unable to locate Mrs. Carman inside. Due to the amount of suspected blood found and the suspicious circumstances, Corporal Meadows and Deputy Dowdy exited the residence and secured the scene. North Precinct General Crimes Agent David Marich was contacted and responded to the scene.

Upon Agent Marich's arrival, Corporal Meadows asked Mr. Stauffer if he would consent to his residence being searched. Mr. Stauffer agreed to allow the Brevard County Sheriff's Office to search his residence and signed a consent to search affidavit. Mr. Stauffer signed a missing/endangered adult affidavit and Deputy Dowdy requested through teletype that Sherri Carman and her vehicle be entered into FCIC/NCIC as missing. Agent Marich obtained a brief statement from Mr. Stauffer while on scene. Mr. Stauffer provided a similar statement as given to Corporal Meadows. Agent Marich contacted the Brevard County Crime Scene Unit and requested that they respond to process the residence for evidence. At approximately 1230 hours, Agent Marich and Sergeant Alli Roberts were concerned about the amount of suspected blood found and contacted the Homicide Unit. I was on call and was briefed on the circumstances of the investigation. Agent Jonathan Kent and I responded to the scene to assist in the investigation.

Upon arrival, I met with Agent Marich and Crime Scene Technician Virginia Casey. I was briefed again about the investigation and Crime Scene Technician Casey advised that there was a significant amount of suspected blood inside the residence. Crime Scene Technician Casey also advised that after a preliminary search of the residence she also found suspected blood on a hammer and a pipe inside the residence. Due to the suspicious nature of the investigation, it was agreed that a search warrant for the residence and vehicle be completed. Agent Marich left the scene and began writing a search warrant. Additional agents were contacted and asked to respond to the location to assist in the investigation.

Agent Brenda Branham and Agent Vicky Sumlin responded to the scene and conducted interviews. Agent Branham and Agent Sumlin first interviewed Donald Hill, who stated in substance the following: Mr. Hill advised he had been living at the Virginia Drive residence until Friday, January 12th. Mr. Hill advised on Thursday, January 11th, Mrs. Carman allowed two subjects, identified as Mike and Wayne, to stay at the residence. In the early morning hours of Saturday January 13th, Mrs. Carman became upset with Mr. Hill, hit him and then asked him to leave the residence. The confrontation was over bed. Mr. Hill left the residence and did not return until the morning of Tuesday, January 16th. Mr. Hill made contact with Mrs. Carman and Mr. Stauffer at the residence and retrieved his wallet from the room. Mr. Hill denied having any further contact with Mrs. Carman. On this date, Mr. Hill was walking to the residence in order to pick up the rest of his belongings when he observed the Sheriff's Office. (See Agent Branham's report)

Agent Branham also conducted an interview with Nicholas King, who resided next to 3324 Virginia Drive. Mr. King advised that on Tuesday, January 16th, at approximately 1500 hours, he received a call from William Stauffer. Mr. Stauffer stated that Mrs. Carman's daughters had arrived home from school but

their mother was not present. Mr. Stauffer asked Mr. King if he could walk next door and watch them until their grandfather could arrive at the residence to pick them up. Mr. King agreed and walked next door but could not find the girls, so he walked back to his residence. Mr. King walked back to his residence, when Autumn and Jayce Carman knocked on the door. They advised that when they arrived home from school their mother was not home. Mr. King walked them back to their residence and walked inside. Jayce had fallen and scraped her knee while walking home from the school bus, so Mr. King retrieved a band aide from a first aid kit and put it on her knee. The girls stayed at the residence until their grandfather arrived and picked them up. Mr. King then walked back to his residence. Mr. King recalled that on Tuesday, January 16th he saw Mrs. Carman's vehicle in the driveway at approximately 0930 hours. (See Agent Branham's report)

Agent Kent and I made contact with William Stauffer and asked if he would consent to an interview at the Sheriff's Office North Precinct. Mr. Stauffer agreed and we drove him to the location in order to conduct the interview. Upon arrival, I obtained a sworn, audio and visually recorded statement from William Stauffer, who stated in substance the following: Mr. Stauffer and Sherri Carman had been involved in a dating relationship for approximately three years. They had been living together at 3324 Virginia Drive, Titusville for over one year. Mrs. Carman's grandfather is the owner of the residence and they rent from him. Mrs. Carman's children also live at the residence and they were identified as Joshua Nettles, Autumn Carman, and Jayce Carman.

On 01/16/2007, at approximately 0230 hours, while in the Orlando area, Mr. Stauffer was notified that Mrs. Carman's two daughters were home but Mrs. Carman was not present. Mr. Stauffer made contact with Autumn and Jayce Carman, who stated that they arrived home from school and their mother was not there. Mr. Stauffer then made contact with their grandfather, identified as Leon Migdalski and asked if he could drive to the residence and pick up the children. Mr. Stauffer also contacted a neighbor, identified as Nick King, and asked if he could watch the children until their grandfather arrived at the residence. Mr. Stauffer called Mrs. Carman's cell phone but was unable to make contact with her.

Mr. Stauffer finished his work for the day and arrived at the residence between 1800 and 1900 hours. Mr. Stauffer entered the residence and observed that her Chrysler 300 vehicle was not in the driveway. Mr. Stauffer also observed that a male, identified as Michael Townson, was not at the residence as well. Mr. Stauffer walked through the residence and found a hand written note by Mrs. Carman's grandfather saying that he had the children and for her to call him when she returned home. He also found Mrs. Carman's purse and medication in their bedroom. Mr. Stauffer continued attempting to make contact with Mrs. Carman without any success. Mr. Stauffer contacted her friends, hospitals, the jail and even drove around the neighborhoods looking for her vehicle. While driving through the Mims area, Mr. Stauffer flagged down a Brevard County Sheriff's Office deputy and asked if he had seen Mrs. Carman's vehicle. The deputy had not seen the vehicle and instructed Mr. Stauffer that if he could not find her to contact the Sheriff's Office and report her missing. Mr. Stauffer was unable to locate Mrs. Carman and decided to contact a friend identified as Michael Rich. Mr. Stauffer met Mr. Rich at an establishment and eventually spent the night at a residence

belonging to Mr. Rich's friend.

On 01/16/2007, at approximately 1030 hours, Mr. Stauffer returned to his residence and walked in through the carport door, which led into the northwest bedroom. As Mr. Stauffer walked into the residence, he observed a cellular phone under a small loveseat. Mr. Stauffer bent over and picked up the cellular phone and observed what he believed to be blood on the phone. He became concerned and continued to look around the room and discovered more suspected blood on a sheet at the foot of the bed inside the same room. The sheet with the suspected blood was on top of a pile of clothing. Mr. Stauffer pulled the sheet off of the pile and found a cushion covered in what he believed to be blood. [REDACTED] walked out of the residence and called 911 for assistance.

Mr. Stauffer explained that he and Mrs. Carman had experienced several problems since 01/11/2007, when Michael Townson and his friend Stephen Wayne Cox arrived at the residence. Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson had been friends since they were young and Mr. Townson had recently been released from prison.

Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson had come in contact with each other and Mrs. Carman allowed Mr. Townson to come to their residence and stay for several days. On 01/11/2007, Mrs. Carman drove to the Ocoee, Florida area and picked up Mr. Townson and his friend Stephen Wayne Cox. Mr. Stauffer was at another friend's residence, identified as Jason Lapella, when Mrs. Carman arrived with Mr. Townson and Mr. Cox. They decided to drive back to 3324 Virginia Drive and Mr. Townson and Mr. Cox drove back with Mr. Stauffer and Mrs. Carman drove back in her vehicle.

On 01/12/2007, Mr. Stauffer drove to another friend's residence in Port Orange to help relative move furniture. While in Port Orange, Mrs. Carman called Mr. Stauffer and stated she caught Mr. Cox in the laundry room shooting drugs into his arm with a syringe. She told Mr. Cox that when Mr. Stauffer returned home he was going to make him leave the residence. Mrs. Carman also stated that Mr. Cox had Mr. Stauffer's van and was driving around the area. Mr. Stauffer stated that he did not give him permission to take the van. Mrs. Carman requested that Mr. Stauffer drive Mr. Cox back to Orlando in order to get him out of the residence. Later in the day, Mr. Stauffer arrived home and took a shower. After showering, Mr. Stauffer drove Mr. Townson and Mr. Cox to Ocoee. Mr. Stauffer dropped Mr. Cox off at a residence on 2nd Street in Ocoee. Mr. Townson asked if he could return home with Mr. Stauffer and he agreed. Mr. Stauffer told Mr. Townson that when he returned home he was going to go fishing with another friend.

At approximately 2100 hours, Mr. Stauffer arrived back in the Titusville area and met his friend, identified as Michael Davis, at a boat ramp to go fishing. Mr. Stauffer went fishing with Michael Davis, Mr. Davis' son, Donald Hill, and Mr. Hill's son, in the Titusville area. Mr. Stauffer identified Donald Hill as a white male, who resided at the Virginia Drive address for a couple of weeks. Before going fishing, Mrs. Carman called Mr. Stauffer and advised that Mr. Townson found her stereo amplifier in his bag. Mr. Townson told Mrs. Carman that Mr. Cox must have attempted to steal the amplifier by placing it into his bag. Mrs. Carman asked Mr. Stauffer to look in her vehicle to see if her speakers were there. Mr. Stauffer looked and could not find the speakers in the trunk. Mrs. Carman stated that Mr. Cox must have stolen the speakers and she wanted to go to Ocoee and find Mr. Cox.

Mr. Townson wanted to go with Mrs. Carman and attempt to find Mr. Cox. Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson picked her vehicle up at the boat ramp and drove to the Ocoee area.

While fishing, Mr. Hill told Mr. Stauffer that earlier in the day he caught Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson kissing on their bed. The group fished until approximately 0100-0130 hours and returned to the residence. Mr. Stauffer advised that Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson were not back and eventually arrived at approximately 0230 hours on 01/13/2007. Mr. Stauffer confronted them about what Mr. Hill said and they denied the allegations. Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman confronted Mr. Hill about the allegations of them kissing. Mr. Hill stated that the allegations were false and blamed the conversation that he and Mr. Stauffer shared on his extreme level of intoxication. Mr. Stauffer then advised that Mr. Townson became so aggressive towards Mr. Hill that Mr. Stauffer had to physically restrain him. During this time frame Mrs. Carman became upset as well and struck Mr. Hill in the face with her fist. Mrs. Carman told Mr. Hill to pack his belongings and leave the residence. Mr. Hill did as requested and left without incident.

After the incident, Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson left the residence and drove around East Mims area looking for her speakers. Mr. Stauffer did not go with them and went to sleep. They returned a short time later without the speakers. On Saturday, January 13th and Sunday, January 14th, Mr. Stauffer, Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman drove back and forth to the Ocoee area. At some point Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson made contact with a black male from the Mims area and arranged to buy her speakers back for \$150.00. This black male had Mrs. Carman's phone number and called the residence several times. Mr. Stauffer could not remember anything significant that occurred on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. On Tuesday, January 16th, Mr. Stauffer woke up at approximately 0700 hours. He began to get ready for work and helped the children get ready for school. At this point the only occupants in the residence were Mr. Stauffer, Mrs. Carman, Mr. Townson and the three children. The children left the residence to walk to the bus stop and a short time later Mr. Stauffer left for work in Orlando. When Mr. Stauffer left, Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson were in the residence by themselves.

While in Orlando, Mrs. Carman called Mr. Stauffer before lunchtime on his cellular phone from the residence phone. They spoke for a short time about miscellaneous issues. Mrs. Carman called Mr. Stauffer another time at approximately 1230 hours from her cellular phone to his cellular phone. Mr. Stauffer felt that Mrs. Carman's voice sounded strange during their conversation. During this conversation Mr. Stauffer's brother was present and heard them talk. Mr. Stauffer was also with Nathaniel James Rose, who is his cousin, throughout the entire day while at work. Contact was made with Mr. Stauffer's boss, identified Kent Williams, who advised that Mr. Stauffer was in fact at work in the Orlando area with his cousin James on 01/16/2007. I also contacted Mr. Stauffer's cousin, identified as Nathaniel James Rose, who confirmed that Mr. Stauffer was with him in the Orlando area on 01/16/2007.

After completing the interview, we drove Mr. Stauffer back to the residence and waited down the road. Mr. Stauffer contacted his brother, Joseph Stauffer, who responded to the location to pick up Mr. Stauffer.



When Joseph Stauffer arrived at the residence, I obtained a sworn, digitally recorded statement from him and he stated in substance the following: Joseph Stauffer advised that on 01/16/2007, Joseph Stauffer spoke with his brother at approximately 0830 hours on the phone and they discussed a job Mr. Stauffer was going to do that day. Joseph Stauffer eventually met up with Mr. Stauffer and their cousin Nathaniel James Rose at a Sunoco convenience store at approximately 1130 hours. Joseph Stauffer gave Mr. Stauffer some money and they drove back to Joseph Stauffer's residence in Winter Garden. During the ride to Joseph Stauffer's residence, Mrs. Carman called Mr. Stauffer at least two times. They arrived at Joseph Stauffer's residence and Mr. Stauffer left with his cousin at approximately 1230 hours. Joseph Stauffer did not have any further contact that day with Mr. Stauffer.

At approximately 1950 hours, I was notified that Lieutenant Scott Armstrong located a deceased white female under a pile of clothing in the laundry room of the residence. Due to the body's condition and position it was not possible to make a positive identification with facial features. Crime Scene Technicians were able to locate a tattoo of a small cross on the female's ankle. A digital photograph of the tattoo was taken and I responded to 3040 Las Palmas Drive, Titusville where Mrs. Carman's family and next of kin had gathered. Upon arrival, I met with Jacob Carman, who was the husband of Sherri Carman. I showed the digital photograph of the tattoo to Mr. Carman and he positively identified it as a tattoo on Mrs. Carman's ankle. Mr. Carman also described two other tattoos that Mrs. Carman had, which were later confirmed by Crime Scene Technicians. Based upon these tattoos, the deceased female found in the residence was positively identified as Sherri Carman. Mr. Carman, who was the legal next of kin, was notified of Sherri Carman's death. Jacob Carman advised that he was the father of Autumn and Jayce Carman.

Agent Branham was present at the Las Palmas residence and conducted interviews with the three children identified as Joshua Nettles, Autumn Carman and Jayce Carman. Agent Branham first interviewed Joshua Nettles, who stated that he lived at the Virginia Drive address with his two sisters, mother, and mother's boyfriend, identified as William Stauffer. Josh Nettles stated that another male identified as Donnie Hill lived at the residence but was told to leave several days prior. Josh Nettles advised that two other males, identified as Mike and Wayne, had been at the residence. Josh Nettles remembered that Wayne was told to leave because he stole his mother's speakers. On Tuesday, January 16th, Josh Nettles woke up in the morning and before leaving for the school bus observed Donnie Hill come into the residence for a short time. Josh Nettles went to school and then stayed after hours because of his Spanish class. After school his grandfather and sisters, who advised that they could not find his mother, picked him up. Josh Nettles and his sisters were driven back to their residence and took a couple of items for the evening. While inside the residence Josh Nettles observed what he thought was "blood dots" on two napkins inside the laundry room. He also observed what he believed was blood on the couch in the living room.

Agent Branham conducted an interview with Jacey Carman, who stated that on Tuesday, January 16th, when she woke up she got ready for school. Josh, Autumn and Jayce left the residence in the morning in order to ride the bus to school. After school was over her and Autumn rode the bus home and

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entered the residence. They could not find their mother and began to call relatives.

Agent Branham conducted an interview with Autumn Carman, who provided a similar statement as her siblings. Autumn Carman added that when they arrived at the residence from school she observed the front door wide open. The living room light and television was on inside the house. Autumn Carman remembered seeing what she believed was a bloody tissue on the laundry room floor. (See Agent Branham's report for further details)

While at the residence I obtained a sworn, digitally recorded statement from Leon Migdalski, who stated in substance the following: Mr. Migdalski is the grandfather of Sherri Carman. Mr. Migdalski advised that Sherri Carman lived at 3324 Virginia Drive, Titusville with her boyfriend, William Stauffer, and her three children. On 01/16/2007, at approximately 1500 hours, Mr. Migdalski received a phone call from Susan Smith in Orlando, who was a good friend of the family. Susan Smith advised Mr. Migdalski that Mrs. Carman's children called her and stated that they arrived home from school and their mother was not present. Ms. Smith asked Mr. Migdalski if he could drive to the residence and pick the children up and bring them back to his residence until they could find Mrs. Carman. Mr. Migdalski drove to 3324 Virginia Drive and observed Autumn and Jayce Carman in the driveway. Mr. Migdalski learned that Joshua Nettles was not home because he stayed at school for Spanish class.

Mr. Migdalski entered the residence and tended to the dogs by letting them out in the back yard through the laundry room. Mr. Migdalski let the dogs back into the residence through the laundry room door. Mr. Migdalski advised that the residence was very messy and did not observe anything out of the ordinary. Mr. Migdalski observed a large pile clothes, a laundry basket, dog food, and a napkin with what he thought was tomato sauce on it inside the laundry room. Mr. Migdalski closed and locked the inner laundry room door, which lead into the residence. Mr. Migdalski left the residence with the two girls, picked up Joshua Nettles from school and drove back to Virginia drive briefly before driving back to his residence on Las Palmas. Mr. Migdalski contacted Mr. Stauffer and they talked about retrieving some clothes for the children in order for them to go to school the next day. At approximately 2100 hours, Mr. Migdalski drove back to Virginia Drive with the three children and they looked through the residence to get clothes. Mr. Stauffer walked Mr. Migdalski into the master bedroom and showed him Mrs. Carman's purse. Mr. Migdalski left the residence with the three children and drove back to his residence.

On 01/17/2007, Mr. Migdalski drove the three children to school in the morning. Before dropping the kids off at school they drove to the Virginia Drive address in order to get their backpacks. Mr. Migdalski and the children entered the residence for a very short time and retrieved their backpacks. Mr. Migdalski did not observe any change to the residence but did not conduct any search. Once the children got their backpacks, they left the residence and drove to school. Later in the morning after 1000 hours, Mr. Migdalski received a call from Mr. Stauffer, who stated that he had found blood inside the residence and he had contacted the Sheriff's Office.

After completing the interviews, I left the residence and returned to 3324

Virginia Drive. I met with Agent Kent and Lieutenant Bruce Barnett. It was determined that a deputy would secure the crime scene all night and we would continue the investigation the next morning.

On 01/18/2007, at approximately 0530 hours, I was contacted by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office communications and requested to call Sergeant Eason of the Orlando Police Department. I called Sergeant Eason, who advised that they had just located Sherri Carman's vehicle in Orlando off of John Young Parkway. Sergeant Eason explained that Officer Crosby and Officer Smith conducted a traffic stop on Mrs. Carman's vehicle and detained a black male identified as Dwight Clark and a black female, identified as Shanita Givens. Officer Crosby questioned Mr. Clark about the vehicle and Mr. Clark advised that he borrowed the vehicle from a white male that was at his residence nearby. I asked Sergeant Eason to make contact with the white male at Mr. Clark's residence and ask if he would consent to an interview at the Orlando Police Department. I informed Sergeant Eason that if the male was identified as Michael Townson that there was no probable cause for his arrest. At that point in the investigation he would be treated as a witness. Several minutes later Sergeant Eason called me back and advised that officers made contact with the male and he was in fact identified as Michael Townson. Additionally, Mr. Townson voluntarily agreed to be driven back to the Orlando Police Department in order to be interviewed about Sherri Carman. Sergeant Eason advised that Dwight Clark voluntarily agreed to be driven back to the Orlando Police Department for further questioning. Sergeant Eason also advised that the female passenger, Shanita Givens, appeared to be intoxicated and refused to cooperate and refused to be driven to the police department. Her information was recorded and she was released from the scene.

I advised Sergeant Eason that I would send a Brevard County Sheriff's Office shop wrecker to respond to the location and recover Mrs. Carman's vehicle. Sergeant Eason had an officer stand by with the vehicle and at the location where Mr. Townson was picked up from until Brevard County Sheriff's Office Agent Dale Young was on scene. I contacted Agent Kent and we drove to the Orlando Police Department and met with Sergeant Ring of the Orlando Police Department.

Agent Kent and I obtained a sworn, digitally recorded statement from Dwight Clark, who stated in substance the following: Mr. Clark understood that he had not been placed under arrest and confirmed that he voluntarily went to the police department to speak with agents. Mr. Clark resided at 1610 South Orange Blossom Trail #27, Orlando with his wife and four children. On 01/17/2006, at approximately 1900 hours, a friend of Mr. Clark, only identified as Jo Jo or J Rock, and white male, who identified himself as Mike, knocked on Mr. Clark's door. The male identified as Mike was trading his Chrysler 300, the vehicle Mr. Clark was eventually stopped in, with Jo Jo for crack cocaine. When Jo Jo left in Mike's vehicle, Mr. Clark allowed Mike to stay at his residence for several hours. Mr. Clark provided a description of Mike, which was consistent with Mr. Townson description. Mr. Clark also provided details of several tattoos on Mike that were identical to tattoos Mr. Townson had. Mr. Clark advised throughout that night, Mike smoked cocaine at the residence. During their conversations, Mike advised that the Chrysler 300 belonged to him and that he was going to trade the vehicle in for a newer model. At approximately 2200 hours, Mike advised he would pay Mr. Clark if he allowed him to sleep in his Nissan 200SX, which was parked in



the front yard. Mr. Clark agreed and allowed Mike to sleep in the vehicle. Before Mike went to sleep, he told Mr. Clark that when Jo Jo returned he could drive the vehicle wherever he wanted.

At approximately 0200 hours, Jo Jo returned to the residence with the vehicle and had a black female with him. The female, later identified as Shanita Givens, asked for a ride to the Pine Hills area but Jo Jo did not want to drive her. Mr. Clark agreed and began to drive her around town. They made several stops and eventually were stopped by the Orlando Police Department. The officers advised the reason for the stop and asked him to accompany them back to the police department.

Mr. Clark advised that he had never seen the white male identified as Mike before and stated he could pick him out of a photo line-up. Sergeant Ring assisted the investigation by making a photo line-up, while at the police department. I showed Mr. Clark the photo line-up, which consisted of six white males all having similar facial characteristics, with one being Michael Townson. Mr. Clark immediately picked Mr. Townson out of the line-up as the white male who identified himself as Mike. After the interview, an Orlando Police Officer drove Mr. Clark back to his residence.

Agent Kent and I made contact with Mr. Townson and explained that we were conducting an investigation involving Sherri Carman. Mr. Townson stated that he knew Mrs. Carman was going to report the vehicle stolen. Mr. Townson was advised that the vehicle was not reported stolen and he was not under arrest. Mr. Townson was also advised that he was not being detained and that he was free to leave. Agent Kent and I asked Mr. Townson if he would voluntarily accompany us back to Brevard County in order to conduct an interview with him. Mr. Townson agreed and asked if we could provide him with food. At approximately 0945 hours, Agent Kent and I left the Orlando Police department and drove Mr. Townson back to Brevard County. While en-route to Brevard County, Mr. Townson stated that he did not hurt Mrs. Carman and did not know what happened to her. Prior to arriving at the East Precinct, I drove through a McDonalds drive through and purchased several hamburgers, french fries and a coke for Mr. Townson. After leaving McDonalds we drove to the East Precinct. As we pulled into the parking lot Mr. Townson broke down and provided a statement that he observed Donnie, identified as Donald Hill, murder Sherri Carman. Upon arrival, we entered the building and immediately went to the interview room.

Agent Kent began the interview with Mr. Townson, who stated in substance the following: Mr. Townson had been friends with Mrs. Carman since they were small children. Mr. Townson was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to over 15 years in prison. In September of 2006, Mr. Townson was released from prison and began to live in the Ocoee area, where he grew up. On Thursday, January 11th, Mr. Townson came in contact with Mrs. Carman and they agreed he would stay at her residence for several days. Mrs. Carman drove to the Ocoee area and picked Mr. Townson up in her vehicle. A friend of Mr. Townson, identified as Stephen Wayne Cox, was with him and also decided to spend several days at her residence. Mr. Townson and Mr. Cox were driven to the residence and spent the night Thursday night. Also at the residence was Mrs. Carman's boyfriend, William Stauffer, and another male identified as Donnie, Donald Hill.

At some point between Thursday evening and Friday, January 12th, Mr. Townson stated he caught Mr. Cox shooting drugs into his arm with a syringe. On Friday afternoon, January 12th, Mr. Townson and Mr. Stauffer drove Mr. Cox back to the Ocoee area. After dropping Mr. Cox off in Ocoee they drove back to the Virginia Drive residence. Mr. Stauffer, Mr. Hill and several others went fishing with a friend on a boat in the river. Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman did not go fishing and stayed at the residence. A short time after they left, Mr. Townson found Mrs. Carman's stereo amplifier in his bag. Mr. Townson told Mrs. Carman that Mr. Cox must have put the amplifier in his bag in an attempt to steal the property. Mrs. Carman became very upset and called Mr. Stauffer and asked him to check the vehicle for her speakers. Mr. Stauffer checked the vehicle and did not find the speakers. Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson decided to drive back to the Ocoee area and look for Mr. Cox in order to recover her speakers. Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman drove Mr. Stauffer's van to the boat ramp and traded the van for her vehicle.

Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman drove to Ocoee and first picked Mr. Townson's son up, who was identified as Brandon Townson. All three drove around in Mrs. Carman's Chrysler 300 vehicle looking for Mr. Cox but were unable to find him. After looking for several hours Mr. Townson, Brandon Townson, and Mrs. Carman drove back to the Virginia Drive residence and arrived at approximately 0300 hours, on Saturday, January 13th. When they entered the residence Mr. Stauffer appeared upset and stated that he wanted to talk to Mrs. Carman. Mr. Townson walked into the bedroom and Mr. Stauffer stated that Mr. Hill said he saw Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman kissing on the bed earlier in the day. Mr. Townson denied the allegations and advised Mrs. Carman about Mr. Hill's comment. Mrs. Carman became very irate and told Mr. Hill to pack his belongings and leave the residence. During the confrontation Mr. Townson attempted to strike Mr. Hill but Mr. Stauffer stopped him. At the same time Mrs. Carman approached Mr. Hill and punched him in the face. After the confrontation, Mr. Hill left without incident.

For the rest of the day Saturday, January 13th, Sunday, January 14th, and into Monday, January 15th, Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman drove around East Mims and the surrounding areas looking for her speakers. It was believed that Mr. Cox stole the speakers and sold them to a local drug dealer for drugs. At some point during their travels, Mr. Townson made contact with an unknown black male, which advised he knew who had the speakers. This male stated that for a price he would be able to get the speakers back to Mrs. Carman. Mr. Townson advised that Mrs. Carman never was able to get the speakers back that were stolen.

On Tuesday, January 16th, Mr. Townson advised he woke up in the morning and helped get the children ready for school. Mr. Stauffer was also up and getting ready for work. While attending to the children, Mr. Townson heard a knock at the door. Mr. Townson was advised that it was Mr. Hill and he wanted to retrieve some of his items from the residence. Mr. Townson did not want to confront him and walked into another room. Mr. Hill entered the residence and retrieved his wallet and left without incident. Mr. Townson advised the children left for their school bus and Mr. Stauffer left to go to work in Orlando. Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman remained at the residence throughout the morning and left at least one time to go to the store.

At approximately 1300 hours, Mr. Townson left the residence in Mrs. Carman's

vehicle and drove to the store to get ice. Mr. Townson arrived back home a short time later and entered the residence through the front door. When Mr. Townson entered the residence he observed Mr. Hill holding a fence post pipe crouched over Mrs. Carman with blood on his face and arm. Mr. Townson stated that Mrs. Carman was wrapped up in a blanket and covered in blood. Mr. Townson became scared and left the residence driving Mrs. Carman's vehicle. Mr. Townson drove around for a while before he decided to buy and smoke some crack cocaine.

After obtaining this statement, Agent Sumlin was able to locate Mr. Hill at his court ordered rehabilitation office in Cocoa. Agent Sumlin, Agent Kent, and myself drove to the location at 803 Fiske Boulevard, Cocoa and made contact with Jennifer Jimenez. I advised Ms. Jimenez of the investigation and she confirmed that Mr. Hill was at the facility. I made contact with Mr. Hill and he agreed to voluntarily be driven to the East precinct in order to be interviewed in reference to the murder investigation. At approximately 1314 hours, I obtained a sworn, audio and visually recorded statement from Donald Hill, who stated in substance the following: Prior to moving in at 3324 Virginia Drive, Titusville, Mr. Hill was living in a recreation vehicle in the woods. In December 2006, Mr. Hill came in contact with Mr. Stauffer while they were fishing. Mr. Hill asked Mr. Stauffer if he could live at his residence and Mr. Stauffer agreed. Mr. Hill moved into the residence in December with Mr. Stauffer, Mrs. Carman and her children.

On Thursday, January 11th, Mr. Townson and Mr. Cox came over to the residence. On Thursday, Mr. Hill witnessed both Mr. Townson and Mr. Cox shooting up cocaine in their arm. On Friday, January 12th, Mr. Stauffer left the residence to help a friend move out of town. In the afternoon time, Mr. Hill observed Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman on the bed next to each other. Mr. Hill walked out of the bedroom and eventually left the residence. Later that evening Mr. Hill told Mr. Stauffer that he saw Mr. Townson and Mrs. Carman on the bed. Mr. Stauffer confronted Mrs. Carman and Mr. Townson, when Mrs. Carman punched him in the face. After this incident Mr. Hill and his son was asked to leave and driven back to his recreation vehicle where they slept for the rest of the night.

Mr. Hill did not have any further contact with Mrs. Carman, Mr. Townson or Mr. Stauffer. On Tuesday, January 16th, Mr. Hill needed to go to his court appointed evaluation, which was required through his probation. Mr. Hill remembered that he left his wallet at 3324 Virginia Drive and walked to the residence at approximately 0730 hours. Mr. Hill knocked on the door and Mrs. Carman let him inside. Mr. Hill observed Mr. Stauffer, Mrs. Carman, Mr. Townson and the three children at the residence. Mr. Hill retrieved his wallet and left the residence several minutes later. Mr. Hill walked through the neighborhoods and eventually walked to his father's employment at South Lake Elementary School. Mr. Hill explained to his father that he needed a ride to his rehabilitation office and his father told him to call his Uncle Billy. Mr. Hill left his father's school at approximately 1000 hours and arrived at his father's residence, 2025 North Singleton Avenue, Titusville, at approximately 1110 hours. Mr. Hill remained at the residence and his mother arrived home at approximately 1300 hours. Mr. Hill called his Uncle Billy, who drove to the residence and picked him up and drove to the rehabilitation center at 803 Fiske Boulevard, Cocoa. Mr. Hill arrived at the facility between approximately 1345 and 1400 hours and remained there for a

couple of hours. After completing his tasks, Uncle Billy picked him back up and drove him to the North Singleton residence and they arrived there some time after 1615 hours. Mr. Hill and his son walked to his recreation vehicle and then back to his parent's residence where he slept for the night.

It was confirmed that Uncle Billy, identified as William McNeely, picked Mr. Hill up at 2025 North Singleton Avenue a short time after 1300 hours and drove him to 803 Fiske Boulevard. (See Agent Sumlin's report) Bonnie Richards, who was a counselor at the facility, confirmed that Mr. Hill was in fact at 803 Fiske Boulevard on 01/16/2007, at approximately 1345 hours, for his court ordered Psycho-Social Evaluation. Mr. Hill was at the location for a couple of hours and later left.

Mr. Hill volunteered to submit to a Computerized Voice Stress Analysis, which was administered by Agent Dale Young. Agent Young advised me that Mr. Hill showed no signs of deception when asked about his involvement in Sherri Carman's murder. (See Agent Young's report)

After completing the interview with Mr. Hill, Agent Spadafora and I entered the interview room with Mr. Townson. I asked Mr. Townson to explain the events that occurred on Tuesday, January 16th. Mr. Townson again described the day and again stated that when he entered the residence after buying a bag of ice, he observed Donald Hill murder Sherri Carman. I then advised Mr. Townson that I had just completed an interview with Mr. Hill and he was at his court order rehabilitation office during the time frame of the murder. Mr. Townson continued to deny any involvement with the murder of Mrs. Carman. Lieutenant Bruce Barnett then notified me that Mr. Townson's had violated his parole and there was a warrant for his arrest. I placed Mr. Townson under arrest for the parole violation and he remained in the interview room.

While completing paperwork, Agent Spadafora was monitoring Mr. Townson in the interview room from the monitoring room. Agent Spadafora observed Mr. Townson walk toward the exit and he met him at the door. Mr. Townson walked out of the room and stated he wanted to talk off the record. Mr. Townson told Agent Spadafora that the last thing she said to him was that she gave him [REDACTED]. Agent Spadafora walked Mr. Townson back into the interview room and they began to discuss what happened. Mr. Townson began to explain that on Tuesday, January 16th, he was on the couch with Mrs. Carman eating pizza. Mrs. Carman hung up her phone and said to Mr. Townson, "welcome to the club Michael, you now have that shit with me." Mr. Townson then observed Mrs. Carman laughing when he stated that he didn't lose his temper, "he lost his mind". Mr. Townson then asked to speak with Agent Kent. (See Agent Spadafora's report)

Agent Kent and Agent Spadafora then continued with the interview. Mr. Townson stated after she told him that she gave him [REDACTED] he lost his mind and "snapped". Mr. Townson then stated the next thing he remembered was being on the Bee Line (S.R. 528). After obtaining this information, Agent Kent read Mr. Townson his Miranda Warnings, at which time he waived his rights and continued to talk to Agent Kent. Mr. Townson again gave brief details of the murder. After several more minutes of questioning, Mr. Townson requested to talk the next day about his involvement in the murder. Before leaving the Precinct, Mr. Townson consented to allowing the Sheriff's Office to take his fingernail clippings and a Buccal swab from his mouth.



Mr. Townson was then transported to the county jail and charged with his parole violation warrant.

On 01/19/2007, at approximately 0830 hours, Agent Kent and I drove to the Brevard County Jail and picked up Mr. Townson. We transported Mr. Townson to the East Precinct and began with the interview. Mr. Townson was provided a breakfast, coffee and water to drink. At the beginning of the interview Mr. Townson was reminded of his Miranda warnings, at which time he stated he understood. Mr. Townson again explained the events that occurred through the day January 16th. Mr. Townson stated that when they were eating pizza on the couch, Mrs. Carman was on the phone with a friend, identified as Amy Aycock. When Mrs. Carman got off of the phone with the friend, she looked at Mr. Townson and made the statement about giving him HIV. Mr. Townson advised that Mrs. Carman was lying on the couch with her head toward the wall.

After the comment was made Mr. Townson stood up over Mrs. Carman and then retrieved a fence post pipe that was next to the front door. Mr. Townson stated that Mr. Stauffer placed the pipe at that location earlier in the day as a weapon Mrs. Carman could use if Mr. Hill came back to the residence. (It was later confirmed by Mr. Stauffer that he did not put the pipe in the residence next to the front door. Mr. Stauffer advised that the fence post pipes were located outside near the carport.) Mr. Townson retrieved the fence post pipe and began walking back toward Mrs. Carman. Mrs. Carman began to say that she was sorry as he approached her. Mr. Townson then stated, "I hit her in the head. I just started swinging and swinging and swinging. It seemed like an hour man". At some point during the attack, Mr. Townson stated that he wrapped her head up in a blanket because he did not want to see her face. Mr. Townson stated that he did not remember anything from that point until he was driving on the Beach Line (S.R. 528). While driving Mrs. Carman's vehicle a horn woke him up out of a "Trance" and he pulled over on the Beach Line. Mr. Townson looked into the mirror and saw blood all over his face and arm. Mr. Townson retrieved a bottle of water and poured it over his body to wash the blood off. He then got back into the vehicle and drove to the Orlando area. (See Agent Kent's report for more details of the interview)

At the end of the interview, Mr. Townson changed his story and said that he did not tell the truth and advised Stephen Wayne Cox was the one responsible for Sherri Carman's murder. Mr. Townson advised that on Tuesday, January 16th, Stephen Wayne Cox arrived at the Virginia Drive residence early in the morning. Mr. Cox gave Mrs. Carman \$200, so she would not call the Sheriff's Office and have him arrested for stealing her speakers. Mr. Townson then stated that he did in fact leave the residence around 1300 hours and when he returned, he observed Stephen Wayne Cox beating Mrs. Carman. Mr. Townson attempted to stop Mr. Cox but he was unable to. Mr. Townson stated that he suffered several scratches on his arms as a result of the fight with Mr. Cox. (These are the same scratches Mr. Townson said he received from running from several black males in Orlando.)

Based upon the evidence and statements received, Michael Townson was charged with 1st degree murder and transported to the county jail.

On 01/21/2007, I was contacted by Sergeant McCollum from the Brevard County Jail and advised that Michael Townson requested to speak with Agent Kent and